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of those which have amended their laws, provision is made for the payment of the allowance to an individual or organization approved by the court in case the mother is found to be improvident, careless or negligent. Several States definitely limit the time to six months during which an allowance continues in force, but such allowances may be renewed and extended for a similar period; in other States, payment continues so long as the original order is not modified. In Massachusetts each case is reconsidered at least once each year.

The amount of the allowance is supposed to be sufficient to enable the mother to properly care for her children or to be equivalent to an amount necessary to maintain them in an institutional home and in each State the amount is definitely fixed. In several States the amount which may be expended is definitely limited. This is fixed at \$12,000 per annum in Missouri; in Pennsylvania, at \$3000 in counties with cities of the first class; \$2400 in counties with cities of the second class; \$1800 in counties with cities of the third class; and \$1200 in other counties; and to meet these expenses an appropriation of \$200,000 was made for the biennium of 1913-14; in Utah not to exceed \$10,000 per year in any county; in Wisconsin the amount paid by the State to any county in any one year can not exceed \$1 for each 30,000 inhabitants, and state aid does not exceed \$75,000 per year.

The investigations in most states are conducted by probation officers, agents or visitors appointed by the court or board, and families recipient are subsequently supervised by these same persons. The qualifications of visitors are usually that they shall be discreet persons of good character. In Ohio and Wyoming, agents of associated charities organizations or humane societies are also employed and any person who is employed in conducting such an investigation must be thoroughly trained in charitable relief work.

In Missouri, Ohio, South Dakota and Utah, to prevent the distribution of allowances where they are not actually needed, any taxpayer may file a motion to set aside or vacate an order granting relief. If on the hearing of such motion it transpires that the grant was injudicious and unwarranted, the court or board may discontinue the subsidy.

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Initiative and Referendum—Advisory Vote. The State of Indiana came very near to offering the nation a new experiment in the applica-

tion of the initiative and referendum at the last session of the general assembly. Indiana cannot have the initiative and referendum under the constitution and the possibility of amendment or revision of the constitution has seemed to be remote. The attempt was made therefore, to secure some of the benefits of the system of direct legislation under existing constitutional restrictions. For that purpose the method applied in the nomination and election of United States senators prior to the change in the federal constitution was suggested. The proposition consisted of a series of pledges which each candidate for the general assembly might sign or refuse to sign. To submit a proposition to the people required that 10 per cent of the qualified voters should petition therefor requesting that the proposition petitioned for should be submitted to the vote of the people at the next general election. It was provided that the ballot be prepared in such form as to permit the substance of the subject presented to be placed at the top in not to exceed twenty-five words and underneath the following question: "Shall the general assembly pass a law substantially as stated above?" The voter might indicate his preference by marking in the square opposite the words "Yes," or "No."

It was provided that the returns of the vote should be made in the same form as the votes at the general election and the secretary of state should lay the returns received by him before the next general assembly and certify the vote thereon. Following the forms used in the election of senators, each candidate under the bill, could sign one of three statements as follows:

STATEMENT NO. 1

I further state to the people of Indiana as well as the people of my legislative district that during my term of office, I will always vote for any proposition which has received a majority of the votes cast thereon at any general election preceding the regular session of the general assembly to which I may be elected without regard to my individual preference.

_____,
Signature of the candidate for nomination.

or

STATEMENT NO. 2

I further state to the people of Indiana as well as the people of my legislative district that during my term of office, I will always vote for

any proposition which has received a majority of the votes cast thereon in my legislative district preceding the regular session of the general assembly to which I may be elected without regard to my individual preference.

_____,
Signature of the candidate for nomination.

or

STATEMENT NO. 3

I further state to the people of Indiana as well as the people of my legislative district that during my term of office, I shall consider the vote of the people for or against any proposition presented to them as nothing more than a recommendation which I shall be at liberty to wholly disregard if the reason for doing so seems to be sufficient.

_____,
Signature of the candidate for nomination.

These statements were to be filed with the secretary of state and become a matter of public record. This bill, which would have made it possible to put certain large questions such as the calling of the constitutional convention, the liquor question, and woman's suffrage up to the people and secure the pledges of members, almost passed the general assembly. It went through the Senate without opposition but the lateness of its report in the House prevented it from finally being passed.

Judicial Elections. Illinois passed a new act providing that the names of all candidates for judge of all courts of record in the State are to be placed upon a separate and independent ballot entitled "judicial ticket." It is expressly provided that in all other respects the ballots shall be like the ballots for other candidates at the election. This would seem to indicate that while the ticket will be separate, party designations may still remain.

Distribution of Legislative Bills. The State of New Mexico provided for wider state publicity of bills presented at the last session of the general assembly by directing the publication of all bills, resolutions and memorials introduced in either house and by requiring that a copy of each bill be delivered to the members of the legislature and to the newspapers, to the state educational institutions including the state university and state normals and to not exceeding five persons whose